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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

29 August 2000

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas  
Federal Communications Commission  
455-12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

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RE: Ultra Wideband  
ET Docket 98-153

Dear Ms. Salas,

My name is Robert E. Spencer and I am the Director of the Maricopa County Department of Emergency Management. We provide emergency planning and disaster response to approximately 3,000,000 county citizens in an area of about 9,600 square miles. I have been in emergency services for 26 years and specifically emergency management for 15. I am writing to you in response to the FCC's Notice of Proposed Rule Making on Ultra Wideband Radio.

Emergency management represents the strategic level of emergency work, which means we work with all of the tactical levels that do the fieldwork. These tacticians include emergency medical services, search and rescue, law enforcement, and fire fighting services. In a disaster situation, resources may be very limited and responder missions must be as efficient as possible to save the most lives. Any new technology that can provide emergency response efficiency should be developed. Each of the responder types mentioned above could potentially realize response efficiencies through the development of ultra wideband technologies. The faster victims can be located, the more likely will be their ultimate chance for survival. Critically injured victims must be located and transported to hospital within what is known as the Golden Hour -- that hour immediately after their injury -- to have a high likelihood of living.

I am encouraging that the FCC to move forward on this decision and permit the research and development of these technologies. I would also like there to be proper guidelines put in place to assure that this technology will be made available to the appropriate agencies for emergency response. I would also recommend that controls be forwarded to be sure the products developed do not interfere with emergency communications and that personal privacy is protected from the potential uses of such technology.

I believe the development ultra wideband radio products will result in lives saved. With proper controls in place, this technology will improve emergency response capabilities.

Sincerely

Robert E. Spencer, C.E.M.  
Director

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